REMARKS

Claims 9, 11-15, and 24-34 are pending herein.

I. Claims 16-23 have been respectfully cancelled.

In the Action dated July 30, 2007, the USPTO respectfully requires that the status of claims 16-23 be clarified before the consideration of the appeal brief. Thus, Applicants respectfully cancel claims 16-23, as indicated above.

II. Conclusion.

Reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Please contact the undersigned for any reason. Applicants seek to cooperate with the Examiner including via telephone if convenient for the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

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